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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)
)
Sture Helmersson et al.)
)
Title: A SPACER AND A FUEL UNIT FOR A)
 NUCLEAR PLANT)
)
Serial No.: National Stage Entry of)
Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/SE2005/000016)
)
International Filing Date: 10 January 2005)
)
Filed: Simultaneously herewith) (Docket No. 1026-0006WOUS)

Middletown, Connecticut, July 13, 2006

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

Applicant(s) submits herewith Form PTO/SB/08A identifying patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Under 37 CFR 1.97 (b)

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application, within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination.

Under 37 CFR 1.97 (c)

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application, or the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application, or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last, but *before* the mailing date of either a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

☐ A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below.

☐ Fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (\$180.00).

Under 37 CFR 1.97(d)

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first, but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee. Applicant hereby petitions for the consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, 37 CFR 1.97(d)(ii). A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below.

☐ Fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i) (\$130.00)

CERTIFICATION (37 CFR 1.97(e))

☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. A copy of the relevant search report is enclosed herewith.

☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

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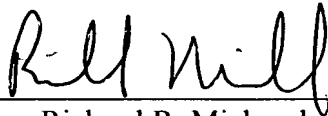
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Under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)

☒ Copies of the U.S. patents identified on the attached PTO/SB/08A form are not being submitted at this time. Should the Examiner require said U.S. patent copies, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner contact Applicants' Representative at the number listed below.

Applicants believe that no fees are due with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. If it is determined that any charges are in fact incurred with respect to this Information Disclosure Statement, they may be charged to Deposit Account No. 503342 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Richard R. Michaud
Registration No. 40,088
Attorney for Applicant

Michaud-Duffy Group LLP
CenterPoint
306 Industrial Park Road
Suite 206
Middletown, CT 06457-1532
(860) 632-7200

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number **10/586032**
Filing Date
First Named Inventor Sture Helmersson
Art Unit
Examiner Name
Attorney Docket Number 1026-0006WOUS

Sheet 1 of 1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 5331679	07-19-1994	Hirukawa	
		US- 5666389	09-09-1997	Andersson et al.	
		US- 5875223	02-23-1999	Nylund	
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		JP 6148370	5-27-1994	Tokyo Shibaura		✓
		JP 7225291	8-22-1995	Hitachi Ltd		✓

Examiner
Signature

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Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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